

## **BIRMINGHAM AND SOLIHULL LOCAL PHARMACEUTICAL COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES from the**

### **17<sup>th</sup> March 2025 meeting at Beckett's Farm from 09.30**

A reminder of the Code of Conduct which sets out the values and behaviours that the LPC expects of committee members, to best support their work and the long-term success of community pharmacy in England

We ask that guests respect any confidential, sensitive, or controversial matters and do not share outside of the meeting.

#### **1. WELCOME, APOLOGIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Present: AP UM ME SP AE SS NK  
JB CMcN

Apols: RB (AP will be in the chair) MM SD MP  
KB VM

Announcements:

Jas attended and stayed for lunch

Sharon Coane updated members on faculty matters. Jeff A sent his apologies

Shalina update members on ICB matters

There was an afternoon session developing some of the operational plans for 25/26 which were discussed in January.

#### **2. MINUTES AND ACTIONS**

Members approved minutes from the Jan 25 meeting

Proposed: AE

Seconded: NK

And noted the actions were complete or included in the March meeting agenda

#### **3. NEW CONTRACT APPLICATIONS / PHARMACEUTICAL LIST MATTERS**

Members noted the correspondence received from NHSE/PCSE since the last meeting.

They reviewed the Market Entry and FtP tracker from NHSE (NEW)

The CO had chased an explanation for NOT receiving notifications from PSCE; it would appear that he is not on the approved list (that is confirmed by CPE)!!! Being remedied

#### New Applications

CAS-352703-S8W5S0

Application for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at 14 Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham, B6 5HA in respect of distance selling premises by Siddiqui Online Pharmacy Ltd. 45-day consultation. Response by 10<sup>th</sup> April

JB

CAS-348916-S3H8P9

Application offering unforeseen benefits at Grove Lane Shopping Parade, 101-123 Grove Lane (both sides), Birmingham, B17 0QT by Roshban Ltd. 45-day consultation. Response by 10<sup>th</sup> April

JB

Ref:ME2940- CAS-249163-L9R1L0

Application for inclusion in a pharmaceutical list at Suite 2A Ardenfield House, 197b Station Road, Solihull, WEST MIDLANDS, B93 0PU in respect of distance selling premises by Halo Health Technologies Limited – REFUSED

*Decision: Committee decided to refuse the application, as there was insufficient clarity and assurance on collection and delivery across England, including the safe custody and delivery of CD Roms and the collection of prescription from patients homes without face to face contact. Appeal rights to the applicant.*

#### Change of Ownership

Nothing to report

#### Relocations

Nothing to report

#### Consolidations

Nothing to report

#### Changes to CORE hours

Nothing to report

#### Changes of SUPPLEMENTARY hours

From 19<sup>th</sup> March: FTD59 Tri-Pharma Limited T/A Vesey Pharmacy, 2 Coles Lane, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B72 1NE. 40 + 14 = 54 hours (08.30 – 18.30 M-F, 09.00-13.00 Sat)

From 1<sup>st</sup> March: FXR61 Ashtree Pharmacy, 1534 Pershore Road, Stirchley, Birmingham. B30 2NW. 40 + 5 = 45 hours (09.00 – 18.00 M Tu F. W 09.00 – 17.00, Th 09.00 – 15.00)

From 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Superdrug - FTT72 34 Mill Lane Arcade, Touchwood, Solihull, B91 3GS 40 + 17 = 57 Hours (M - S 08.30 – 18.00)

From 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Stag Direct at 10A Haden Street, Balsall heath, Birmingham, B12 9BH  
40 core hours: 09.00 – 17.00 M – F

#### Closures

Nothing to report

#### Appeals

Nothing to report

#### 4. CPE MATTERS & FUNDING

Members received the updates from the 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Feb CPE/LPC Ops Team (CLOT) meetings. And noted these are confidential notes shared with LPCs and Chief Officers only

The CO shared responses to February's queries:

*Two other LPC items referred to Dan as IT related – NHSAPP (see MAPCOG info) and Proscript wholesale nomination change issue PPV – Gordon response – in a nutshell all main services have retain info for 3 years apart from the old delivery one which didn't specify. NHSE and Appeals have sided with commissioner on the delivery one that onus on contractor to retain and not destroy without asking permission from NHSE first! NHS writing to some contractors where may be some investigation to ask to retain documents for longer e.g. NMS. If asked you must retain longer. If fraud is suspected then NHS can go back as long as they need to, otherwise generally they will not go back further than the 3 years that should all have records for. The short answer is no we cannot insist that stop investigating after 3 years as it is in ToS so CPE not consulted.*

Members received:

- a contractor's bundle check report (underpayment of £26 in £191k)
- CPE's 25/26 LPC's levy presentation
- slides from February's CPE Board meeting (Jas's)
- the March/April CPE important dates tracker (already shared with contractors)

Members noted: Liam Byrne MP planning to visit a pharmacy in April

SS/JB

Jas updated members following the speculation about the CPCF negotiations.

**It is important to respect the confidentiality of the comments** and speculation should NOT be fuelled by this discussion. It was clear that the outcome of the negotiations would be public soon.

- CPE recognised the frustration being voiced by contractors
- the IER (economic review) is NHSE's and so THEY are in control of when/how it is shared. However, this review was shared with the NT and the contents were not contested by the DHSC. It will be shared once outcome of negotiations is public. There is a feeling the new government grasped the fragility of the CP network. The settlement will cover off 24/24 & 24/25 with a direction of travel/plan for 2026 onwards taking into account the 3-year spending review

Jas then answered questions

5. LOCAL COMMISSIONED ENHANCED SERVICES

Members were updated and commented on locally commissioned services from:

CGL

SP provide a verbal update following 14<sup>th</sup> February catch up with Kevin

The snapshot of activity was shared - monthly income from all services stabilising at c £50k pm

Contractors can claim any OoD THN if they expire before use

Contract update from Kevin (contract is out for re-tender):

*At the moment it looks like we will be issuing a 6-month extension letter whilst awaiting the outcome of the tender process in Birmingham. Likely to be doing this early next week*

Umbrella

Catch up meeting with new service manager, Lee. It would seem the BCC<>UHB head contract has now been agreed and is just awaiting all the signatures to be added.

This should lead to the subcontracting arrangements to be shared with contractors.

There is still a +2% fee increase each year meaning the EHC fee is likely to increase from £12.24 to 12.48 which is not recognising the cost of providing the service. RB supplied some additional update in her report and there was a steer from Jas to **do nothing** yet

Smoking (Birmingham)

Members received the BCC Smoking T&F Group presentation from 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Year 2 plans for the Tobacco Control Grant (impacting CPs) were highlighted and the expectation that delivery fees would be added to the postal voucher service and training for varenicline (initially) and cytisine would be needed together with CV. Other local authorities had linked Rx's from GPs for varenicline with behavioural support from CPs

JH>JB

The CO provided a verbal update on Q3 review meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> March – share presentation with minutes

JB

MBC

The CO provided a verbal update from 6<sup>th</sup> March MBC session (ABL and smoking)

Low impact and no action

PNA

Healthy Dialogue arranged first steering group meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> March where dates and plans were shared. It was agreed there would be NO contractor survey and this information would be sourced from the relevant organisations. Exec to continue to represent the LPC

RB JB

6. LPC CHAIRS AND SECRETARIES GROUP (CPM)

No update

## 7. NHS ENGLAND MATTERS

### NHSE funding – MOU

LPN payments now received for 23/24 and 24/25. MOU requires specific workplan to be agreed with LPN Chair (Satyan Kotecha). Joint BC & B Sol bi-monthly meetings planned with LPCs COs & Chairs, CPCL and LPN Chair. The initial focus will be on promoting sign-ups to the NHS App which will have operational efficiencies to contractors' workload by decreasing telephone queries from patients re "order my next repeat", "are my medicines ready to collect?", "I ordered four items and have only received three" etc. All these features will become available to patients in 2025. The challenge is to get the patients to sign up and able to use the App.

### NMS

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.  
Members noted: 12340 NMSs delivered from 275 contractors  
(+37% v LY). Top performers (>160): Northbrook, Laser & Vesey  
Overall occurrence rate of 0.5%, with 10 contractors delivering >1.1% of items  
NB 1% is the claiming ceiling per month  
Just 29 contractors with zero activity

### DMS

No significant activity from B Sol trusts  
18 DMS (16 completed) (BW Healthcare)  
Meeting with MMUH & Sandwell LPC & CPCL re DMS arranged for March  
Update in April

JB

### Autumn vaccination services

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.  
Members noted: 11572 flu jabs claimed in second full month  
Season to date = 63855 (+0.6%) v S, O & N LY  
Top performers (>600): Ashfurlong. & Walmley

Members also received the market stimulation presentation for RSV + Pertussis. NHSE are going out to tender in 3 systems inc 22 localities in B Sol. This is a new **NES** which is an important commissioning development for CPs. Webinar arranged c 60 attendees. Laboured procurement 😞 Return date extended to 31<sup>st</sup> March following feedback on timelines

### Pharmacy First

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.

Month	Total	Total Av per participating contractor	Clinical Pathway Total	Av Pathway per participating contractor (threshold) (308-Col K)
Feb	12107	48	3590	13.6
Mar	11932	48	3986	15.2
Apr	12219	49	4168	16.2
May	13942	55	4821	17.9
June	13009	52	4719	18.8
July	13718	45	5022	19.3
Aug	13156	38	5037	19.0
Sept	13344	44	5369	20.6
Oct	14869	56	6064	22.9
Nov	16191	61	6438	24.5

Members noted:  
16191 PF services  
claimed in total  
in Nov 2024 with  
41 CPs **not**  
participating

6438 from pathway; 2586 sore throat and UTI 1780, ear, 897

Top performers (>150 pathways): Allcare, Haslucks Green, Newborough

More positive press was shared for Pharmacy First and support with raising awareness across B Sol:

<https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/nhs-service-urging-patients-go-31149158>

#### Extended Care Services

NHS OWM working to “un-pause” the two services. Variation in support from ICBs  
Just SSTW approved

#### NHS Hypertension Case Finding Service

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.

Members noted: 7328 Bp checks claimed in the month (+38% v LY)

Top performers (>500): Glebe, Erdington DN

84 zero activity contractors

609 ABPMs claimed (+107% v LY) and an occurrence rate of 8.3% (pleasing increase)

207 zero activity contractors

Top performers (>50): Shelley's & BSB

Members also received the contractor 1-pager (shared already)

#### NHS Smoking Cessation Advanced Service

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.

To note: ZERO activity

134 contractors NOT signed up to provide the service

169 contractors signed up with 21 active in 23/24 and 14 reporting activity just in 2024

#### Contraception

The SDO tracker and graph for Nov 2024 was shared.

Members noted: 980 on-going contraception claims. Top Performers (>100) Oaks,  
54 zero activity (from contractors signed up)  
And 183 initiations from 68 providers. Top Performers (>10): Oaks)  
There are 239 contractors signed up to this advanced service of which 144  
are active

#### PhIF

NMS in depression – no update

#### NHSE Weekly Meeting (MAPCOG)

Members received with the agenda:  
the PCARP Oversight Meeting notes from 10<sup>th</sup> Feb  
the NHS OWM MAPCOG's update 25<sup>th</sup> Feb  
the “referred back” prescriptions NOT processed (from BSA)  
And noted the intel gathered by the SDOs from the contractors with  
the biggest numbers outstanding

#### Rota

Members received the review of the festive rotas activity report  
And were invited to provide feedback ahead of the planned review with the NHS  
OWM

#### CD Local Intelligence Network

No update

### 8. ICS DEVELOPMENT

Members received an update from SC at the B Sol faculty and noted nearly all of the  
CP sites offering FY placements in 25/26 had a DPP earmarked which was a pleasing update.  
Support for new learning supervisors (from Faculty) shared with contractors  
Share presentation JB

SA from ICB updated members

Share presentation JB

Highlights included:

Support and marketing for PF inc expected integrated solution for System 1 practices  
Progress with IP Pathfinder sites with ¾ live and the fourth expected to be live  
by end March

Additional plans to increase PF activity out of UTCs

Explanation of the latest UHB DMS fudge – 7 pilots to explore pathway with  
test patients

Members noted the CMO meeting provisionally booked in March with JB, RB, Clara Day &  
Paul Sheriff had been postponed. New date arranged

### 9. CHIEF OFFICER'S REPORT

Members were updated on the issues with EPS nominations being changed without  
patient consent and the standardisation of the complaint's procedures for patients.

Outcome of meeting to be chased. Some contractors are now receiving GPhC letters

The review of additions to the CP B Sol's website was deferred

#### 10. CHAIR'S UPDATE

A copy of the email RB > JW (CPE) was shared

*Something to highlight as I wasn't aware that this could happen and may be something for Vicki to be aware of when she's settled in.*

*As you know Jeff and I have been banging the drum for increasing the Umbrella (University Hospitals Birmingham) funding for community pharmacies. Our conversations with their new contract manager has included presenting evidence that contractors are no longer providing the Umbrella ongoing contraception service, as the NHS service compensates more suitably to deliver it – which they agree on.*

*Meeting with the contract manager last week, our reasonable request to see some of the ongoing contraception budget transferred to the emergency contraception budget (currently £12.24 per consult) has been rejected. The reasoning of all this now has been shared, that although Public Health funding is ring-fenced with the council (Birmingham City), once UHB won the tender that ring-fencing is removed, so in this case, there is no more money for community pharmacy as UHB finance have earmarked it for elsewhere in the Trust. There are no quantitative KPIs for UHB as part of the council's tender, only qualitative – which doesn't help steer community pharmacies to challenge back.*

*Obviously, I'm aware that if community pharmacies are subcontracted it starts to reduce the funding dripping through as the main commissioner needs to cover their costs, so we prefer direct commissioning however, this amazed and disappointed me!*

*Be good to get any thoughts from CPE.*

Other points from RB:

*CGL - are issuing a 6-month extension letter whilst awaiting the outcome of the tender process in Birmingham (Boots now received for 6 months)*

*DMS - it's not really clear what the impact of the 18 months of conversations have had on the pilot, still likely to cause barriers for some contractors, those that sign up and can start to receive referrals, please let us have feedback so we can consider next steps*

#### 11. GOVERNANCE

The new member election process was in progress with 3 independent contractors expressing an interest. The vote close 24<sup>th</sup> March

#### 12. FINANCE

Defer until April



13. AOB

A notification from BSMHFT confirmed items would be issued via EPS tokens rather than FP10s by end of March. Overall welcomed with little expected impact.

14. FUTURE MEETINGS

Members noted the “out of sequence” April meeting due to school holidays:

	<b>Community Pharmacy Birmingham &amp; Solihull</b>		
	<b>Monthly Routine</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Timing</b>
<b>Month</b>	<b>3rd Monday</b>		<b>09.30 - 16.00</b>
Apr	14*	Virt - Zoom	15.00 - 17.30
May	19	F2F SL	09.30 - 16.00
Jun	16	Virt - Zoom	15.00 - 17.30
Jul	21	F2F Beck	09.30 - 16.00
Aug			
Sep	15	F2F SL	09.30 - 16.00
Oct	20	Virt - Zoom	15.00 - 17.30
Nov	17	F2F Beck	09.30 - 16.00
Dec	15	Virt - Zoom	15.00 - 17.30

To approve add to diaries

Members

To approve authority to chair and officers

Members

### Afternoon development session

Members received the activity plan updated from January 25's meeting

Members agreed additions to be added to the priority actions

JB

- develop support to increase uptake of Bp and particularly ABPM
- develop support to increase uptake of contraception
- Bus adverts agreed for 4 weeks after Easter and hopefully to coincide with new CPCF
- promote the use of AccuRx (webinars and flyers and presence at contractor events)
- learning at lunch virtual training/support sessions for contractors (change management, conversations that deliver, understanding Nasrin's work (SHP PCN))
- promote the NHS App promotion to provide patient-controlled choice and efficiencies for CP at the ordering and collecting of meds
- to assess officers' performance in 24/25
- to incorporate any implications of NHSE/DHSC organisational
- to incorporate the opportunities from the CPCF settlement
- to develop social media platforms FB & X

### Action Summary

Item	Action	Who	When
3. Contract Applications	Respond to new applications: CAS-352703-S8W5S0 CAS-348916-S3H8P9 Highlighting address variation, following comments from CoE SC	JB	Mar
4.CPE matters	Support MP visit	SS/JB	Apr
5. Local Services	Explore varenicline Rx's into CP (from GPs) for the smoking service Share BCC quarterly review presentation Continue to attend PNA Steering group	JH>JB JB JB RB	Apr Mar Apr
7. NHS Matters	Update progress with DMS referrals from MMUH's meeting	JB	Apr
8. ICB Matters	Share SC's presentation Share SA's presentation	JB JB	Mar Mar
Development Session	Incorporate additional actions into the 25/26 Operational Plan	JB	Apr